

**ABSTRACT**

**GAS1 POLYPEPTIDES**

There is disclosed a method of inhibiting the lethal effect of expressing an otherwise lethal protein in a cell, said method comprising: (a) providing a cell, tissue or organism having (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding a Gas1 protein, or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor thereof, which is capable of inducing apoptosis in said cell and (ii) a further nucleotide sequence encoding a protein which is otherwise lethal to said cell in itself or in response to a lethal stimulus in the presence of Gas1; (b) inhibiting function and/or expression of said Gas1 protein or functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor thereof; and (c) expressing said sequence encoding said otherwise lethal protein.